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DOCKET NO.: D0188.70178US02

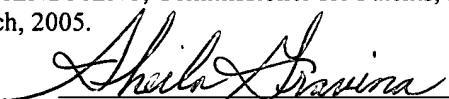
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Gregory E. SANCOFF, Jack ROBERTSON and Frederic P. FIELD
Serial No.: 10/667,845
Filed: September 22, 2003
For: CONNECTOR ASSEMBLY FOR JOINING A GRAFT VESSEL TO A SIDE
OF A TARGET VESSEL

Examiner: Unassigned
Art Unit: 3731 Confirmation No.: 1355

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document is being placed in the United States mail with first-class postage attached, addressed to MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the 25 day of March, 2005.


Signature Sheila Gravina

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir/Madam:

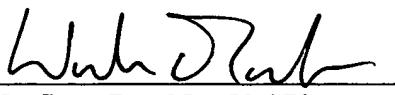
Transmitted herewith for filing is/are the following document(s):

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. PTO Form 1449 with cited foreign references;
3. Return Post Card

If the enclosed papers are considered incomplete, the Mail Room and/or the Application Branch is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned collect at (617) 646-8000, Boston, Massachusetts.

No check is enclosed. If it is determined that a fee is necessary, the fee may be charged to the account of the undersigned, Deposit Account No. 23/2825. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 
Walt Norfleet, Reg No. 52,078
Wolf, Greenfield & Sacks, P.C.
600 Atlantic Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 02210-2206
Telephone: (617) 646-8000

Docket No.: D0188.70178US02

Date: March 25, 2005

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MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**STATEMENT FILED PURSUANT TO THE DUTY OF
DISCLOSURE UNDER 37 CFR §§1.56, 1.97 AND 1.98**

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the Applicant requests consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the above-identified case. No fee or certification is required.

Information Cited

The Applicant hereby makes of record in the above-identified application the information listed on the attached form PTO-1449 (modified). The order of presentation of the references should not be construed as an indication of the importance of the references.

The Applicant would like to bring to the Examiner's attention the enclosed International Search Report from corresponding International Application No. PCT/US2004/030923, dated February 17, 2005.

Remarks

Documents cited anywhere in the Information Disclosure Statement are enclosed unless otherwise indicated. It is respectfully requested that:

1. The Examiner consider completely the cited information, along with any other information, in reaching a determination concerning the patentability of the present claims;
2. The enclosed form PTO-1449 be signed by the Examiner to evidence that the cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application;
3. The citations for the information be printed on any patent which issues from this application.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that a search has been performed, of the extent of any search performed, or that more relevant information does not exist.

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

By submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicant makes no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, in fact, prior art as defined by 35 U.S.C. §102.

Notwithstanding any statements by the Applicant, the Examiner is urged to form his own conclusion regarding the relevance of the cited information.

Serial No.: 10/667,845
Conf. No.: 1355

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Art Unit: 3731

An early and favorable action is hereby requested.

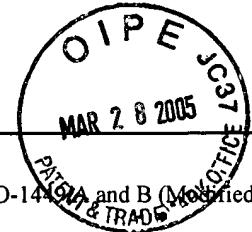
Respectfully submitted,

By: Walt Norfleet
Walt Norfleet, Reg No. 52,078
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600 Atlantic Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 02210-2206
Telephone: (617) 646-8000

Docket No.: D0188.70178US02

Date: March 25, 2005

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FORM PTO-144A and B (Modified) INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT				APPLICATION NO.: 10/667,845	ATTY. DOCKET NO.: D0188.70178US02
				FILING DATE: September 22, 2003	CONFIRMATION NO.: 1355
				APPLICANT: Gregory E. SANCOFF, Jack ROBERTSON and Frederic P. FIELD	
				GROUP ART UNIT: 3731	EXAMINER: Unassigned
Sheet 1 of 1					

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication or of issue of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY
		Number	Kind Code		
	A1	5,697,943	A	Sauer et al.	12/16/1997
	A2	5,776,185	A	Verona et al.	07/07/1998

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document (not necessary)	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Translation (Y/N)
		Office/Country	Number	Kind Code			
	A3	WO	00/24339	A1	Berreklouw	05/04/2000	
	A4	WO	01/97695	A1	Intellicardia, Inc.	12/27/2001	
	A5	EP	0 517 488	A1	Etticon	12/09/1992	
	A6	WO	02/058594	A1	Solem	08/01/2002	

OTHER ART — NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner's Initials	Cite No	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS) title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, relevant page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation (Y/N)

EXAMINER:	DATE CONSIDERED:
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#EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.

*a copy of this reference is not provided as it was previously cited by or submitted to the office in a prior application, Serial No. ___, filed ___, and relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120 (continuation, continuation-in-part, and divisional applications).

[NOTE - The Office hereby waives the requirement under 37 CFR 1.98 (a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003 and for all international applications that have entered the national stage under 35 USC 371 after June 30, 2003. See 37 CFR 1.491(b). For all patent applications filed on or before June 30, 2003, copies of cited U.S. patents and patent application publications are still required unless an eIDS is filed. Copies of all other patent(s), publication(s), or other information listed must still be provided, even if it was previously submitted to, or cited by, the U.S. Patent Office in an earlier application, unless the earlier application is identified by the IDS and is relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120, and the copy was provided in the earlier application.]